



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/852,095	05/09/2001	Velayudhan Nair, Gopa Kumar	C2068(C)	4732
201	7590	04/28/2004	EXAMINER	
UNILEVER PATENT DEPARTMENT 45 RIVER ROAD EDGEWATER, NJ 07020			MRUK, BRIAN P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1751	

DATE MAILED: 04/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Supplemental Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/852,095	KUMAR ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Brian P Mruk	1751	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to March 29, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3,6,8-20,22 and 24-26.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20040427.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Brian P. Mruk
Brian P Mruk
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1751

SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Rimma Mitelman on April 27, 2004.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

In the last line of page 10, delete "FIG 1: ANIONIC HYDROPHOBIC GRAFT
COPOLYMER OF STARCH"

In the last line of page 11, delete "FIG 2: ANIONIC HYDROPHOBIC GRAFT
COPOLYMER OF CELLULOSE"

In the last line of page 12, delete "FIG 3: ANIONIC HYDROPHOBIC GRAFT
COPOLYMER OF GUAR GUM"

In the last line of page 13, delete "FIG 4: ANIONIC HYDROPHOBIC GRAFT
COPOLYMER OF TAMARIND GUM"

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Denzinger et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,227,446, discloses graft copolymers obtainable by free radical-initiated copolymerization of (a) 10-90% by weight of a monoethylenically unsaturated C₄-C₈ dicarboxylic acid, (b) 10-90% by weight of a monoethylenically unsaturated C₃-C₁₀ carboxylic acid, (c) 0-40% by weight of another monoethylenically unsaturated monomer, and (d) 0-5% by weight of a monomer containing two or more ethylenically unsaturated double bonds, onto a monosaccharide or polysaccharide graft (see abstract & col. 1, line 67-col. 2, line 55). It is further taught by Denzinger et al that the other monoethylenically unsaturated monomer (c) includes sulphonic acid monomers, such as vinylsulfonic acid (see col. 2, line 65-col. 3, line 35), and that the polymerization occurs in the presence of hydrogen peroxide, ferrous ammonium sulfate, and chlorinated carbons (see col. 5, line 63-col. 6, line 50 & col. 15, lines 1-38). Denzinger discloses that the graft copolymers are used in conjunction with surfactants, builders, bleaches, and adjunct ingredients to wash fabrics (see col. 2, lines 26-28 & col. 25, line 52-col. 26, line 51). However, patentee differs from applicant in that Denzinger et al does not teach or suggest in general a hydrophobic graft copolymer that is anionically modified, per the requirements of the instant invention.

Accordingly, the claims viewed as a whole would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention after viewing the prior art of record.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Mruk whose telephone number is (571) 272-1321. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yogendra Gupta, can be reached on (571) 272-1316. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9310 (Before Final) and (703) 872-9311 (After Final).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

Bm

Brian Mruk
April 27, 2004

Brian P. Mruk

Brian P. Mruk
Patent Examiner
Tech Center 1700